

REMARKS

Claims 1-32 are currently pending in the application. Claims 1 – 32 are rejected.

Claims 1, 13 and 22 are currently amended.

Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the amendments above and the remarks following is respectfully requested.

Claims Rejections – 35 U.S.C. 103

1. Claims 13-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over a mosaic of four citations, Iwatsuki et al (US 2003/0197772) in view of Loopstra et al (US 6,262,796), Codos (US 6,755,518), Rasmussen et al (US 6,536,894), and Rezanka (US 5,757,407).

Claim 13 has been amended to correct a typo made in the response to the previous Office Action, changing “side by ~~said~~ X axis motion” to be “side by side X axis motion”.

Applicants respectfully point out that the reference of Loopstra et al is taken from a field of endeavor, semiconductor lithography, which is distant from the field of the present application. Applicants point out that the differences between the features of printing machines in the field of semiconductor lithography are such that one questions whether a person ordinarily skilled in the art of one field is expected to be versed in the technology of the other field. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to point out the Rationale to combine Loopstra with the other references, according to the current Examination Guidelines for Determining Obviousness Under 35 U.S.C. 103 in View of the Supreme Court Decision in KSR International Co. v. Teleflex Inc.

In the field of Loopstra et al, while two object holders are mentioned, both the object holder and a printing device must be static during printing. The printing is typically performed by a flash of light. In the field of printing on textiles, the printing is performed by moving the printing table under the inkjet nozzles during the application of ink.

In Loopstra, an equivalent of the array of inkjet nozzles is an imaging or projection system (focusing unit 5 and optical lens system 17 of Fig. 1 in Loopstra). Loopstra does not teach moving the imaging or projection system. If movement occurs, it occurs while stepping between exposures. In the present invention, there occur “back and forth movements” “during said applying”.

In summary, Loopstra belongs to a technologically different field which does not teach “applying ink”, and does not teach “back and forth movements” “during said applying”.

Claims 1, 13, and 22, are believed to be inventive over the cited references.

Nevertheless, applicants have amended the independent claims 1, 13, and 22, of the present application, to describe “wherein said array of inkjet nozzles is configured to move from applying ink on a first of said printing table assemblies to applying ink on a second of said printing table assemblies”.

In Loopstra, an equivalent of the array of inkjet nozzles is an imaging or projection system (focusing unit 5 and optical lens system 17 of Fig. 1 in Loopstra). Loopstra does not teach moving the imaging or projection system. Nevertheless, if movement occurs, it most definitely does not occur during exposure, only while stepping between exposures. In the present invention, there occur “back and forth movements” “during said applying”.

Independent claims 1, 13, and 22, are thus believed to be inventive over the cited references.

The dependent claims rejected in the above-mentioned rejections, claims 14-21, are deemed allowable by virtue of their parent claim 13.

2. Claims 1-3, 7-8, 22, 27-28, 30-31, and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Iwatsuki et al in view of Loopstra et al and Rezanka.

Applicants have argued claims 1 and 22 in response to item 1 above.

The dependent claims 2-3, 7-8, 27-28, and 30-32 are deemed allowable by virtue of their parent claims 1 and 22.

3. Claims 6, 9-11, 24-26, and 29, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Iwatsuki et al in view of Loopstra et al and Rezanka as applied to claims 1 and 22, and further in view of Codos.

The dependent claims 6, 9-11, 24-26, and 29, are deemed allowable by virtue of their parent claims 1 and 22.

4. Claims 12 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Iwatsuki et al in view of Loopstra et al and Rezanka as applied to claims 1 and 22, and further in view of Rasmussen et al.

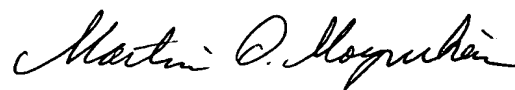
The dependent claims 12 and 23 are deemed allowable by virtue of their parent claims 1 and 22.

5. Claims 4 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Iwatsuki et al in view of Loopstra et al and Rezanka as applied to claims 1 and 22, and further in view of Nakamura et al (US 2003/0142167).

The dependent claims 4 and 5 are deemed allowable by virtue of their parent claim 1.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all the claims now pending in the application are allowable over the cited references. No new matter is added by the present amendments. An early Notice of Allowance is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Encl:

- Petition for Extension (1 Month)